

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP

SUBJECT: COMMERCE TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM: MARKET RESEARCH ON  
MOD-R TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

REF: STATE 052216

1. ZAMBIA ALREADY OFFERS A SUBSTANTIAL MARKET TO ANY MANUFACTURERS OF MODERN TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT, ESPECIALLY THOSE OFFERING TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT. ZAMBIA S SECOND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (1972-1976) PROVIDES FOR A MASSIVE TELEPHONE NETWORK TO LINK RURAL AREAS TO LUSAKA AND OTHER URBAN CENTERS. THE VENTURE IS EXPECTED TO COST APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 95 MILLION. TELEPHONE GROUP SWITCHING CENTERS ARE PLANNED FOR SEVERAL MAIN CENTERS INCLUDING LUSAKA, KABWE, COPPERBELT, LIVINGSTONE, KASAMA, CHIPATA, MONGU, SOLWEZI, MANSA AND CHOMA. ALTHOUGH THE DIRECTOR OF TELECOMMUNICATION WOULD NOT RELEASE DETAILS OF PLAN FOR THE GENERAL POST OFFICE S TELECOMMUNICATIO SECTOR, HE CONFIRMED THAT THERE ARE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS FOR THIS FIELD, I.E. ACQUISITION OR PURCHASE OF VARIOUS MODERN TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT WITH THE HELP OF LOANS FROM THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND THE WORLD BANK.

2. A RECENTLY COMMISSIONED EARTH STATION BUILT AT A COST OF DOLLARS 4 MILLIOM BY NIPPON ELECTRONIC COMPANY OF JAPAN A FEW KILOMETRES WEST OF LUSAKA IS FULLY LIVING UP TO ITS EXPECTATION.

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EM BY THE END OF 975 ZAMBIA WILL COMPLETE FACILITIES  
FOR AN INTERNATIONAL ELECTRONIC TELEX EXCHANGE SYSTEM  
WHICH IS BEING INSTALLED IN LUSAKA BY PLESSEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
(EXPORT) LTD. OF DG#CD D.55 (445,496.

4. ZAMBIA BROADCASTING SERVICES IS ANOTHER FIELD  
WHICH OFFERS A MARKET TO MANUFACTURERS OR SUPPLIERS OF RADIO  
TRANSMITTERS AND TELEVISION STUDIO EQUIPMENT. ZBS WILL  
SHORTLY REQUIRE COMPLETELY NEW RADIO TRANSMITTERS TO REPLACE  
THE PRESENT ONES WHICH ARE OVER 20 YEARS OLD. A LIVE TELEVISION  
STUDIO IS ALSO PLANNED. THIS WILL REQUIRE A WHOLE RANGE OF  
EQUIPMENT FOR A STUDIO OF ITS NATURE.

5. PLANS HAVE ALSO BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE  
BUILDING OF A MULTI-MILLION KWACHA MASS MEDIA COMPLEX WHICH  
WILL ACCOMMODATE ALL THE THREE MAIN GOVERNMENT NEWS  
MEDIA, ZAMBIA BROADCASTING SERVICES, (ZBS), ZAMBIA INFORMATION  
SERVICES (ZIS) AND ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY (ZANA). THIS WILL  
CALL FOR EXPANSION OF STAFF AND INCREASE IN TELECO-  
MMUNICATION EQUIPMENT LIKE TELEX MACHINES, TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

6. WOULD WELCOME VISIT BY MRO MICHELINI BUT BELIEVE  
APRIL 1976 TECHNICAL SEMINAR WOULD TAKE PLACE AFTER MAJOR  
EXPANSION DECISION HAVE BEEN MADE AND CONTRACTS AWARDED.  
U.S. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY IS ALSO ALREADY WELL REPRESENTED AT PRESENT IN ZAMBIA.  
WILKOWSKI

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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